

**REMARKS**

Claims 6 (as amended) and 7 are now pending in the application. Claims 1-5, 8 and 9 have been cancelled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections and objections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

**REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gray et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 2,203,868). Claim 1 has been cancelled herewith, thus rendering this rejection moot.

**REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gray et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 2,203,868), as applied to claim 1, in view of Kent et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 3,670,545).

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gray et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 2,203,868), as applied to claim 1, in view of Takamiya et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,253,890).

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gray et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 2,203,868) and Takamiya et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,253,890), as applied to claim 3, in view of Kimura (U.S. Pat. No. 4,305,269).

Claims 5, 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gray et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 2,203,868) and Takamiya et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,253,890) as applied to claim 3, in view of Kimura (U.S. Pat. No. 4,305,269).

Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9 have been cancelled herewith, thus rendering the above rejections moot.

**ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

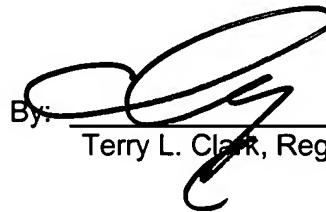
The Examiner states that claims 6 and 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant(s) have amended claim 6 to include the limitations of the base claim 1 and any intervening claims. Therefore, claims 6 and 7 are now in condition for allowance.

**CONCLUSION**

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
Terry L. Clark, Reg. No. 32,644

Dated: 9/24/04  
HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O. Box 8910  
Reston, Virginia 20195  
(703) 668-8000

[TLC/dab]